


OLL 84-1357/4
20 September 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

VIA: Chief, Liaison Division/OLL

FROM:


Liaison Division/OLL

STAT

SUBJECT: HR 2300: "Civil Service Spouse Retirement
Equity Act"

1. On 19 September, I attended the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee mark up of HR 2300, the "Civil Service Spouse Retirement Equity Act." It was voted out of Committee by a unanimous vote and will likely be voted on and passed by the House within the next two weeks.

2. I spoke with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) representative who attended the Committee mark up. He said that the bill (Ref. OLL 84-1357/3) now looked very much like the OPM proposal which he drafted. He said that the House democrats had been very cooperative ("they have probably been reading the polls") and had added some features that strengthened the OPM proposal. He stated that OPM still did not like the retroactivity feature, not because of the cost, but the fact that it sets a precedent for Civil Service legislation. OPM supports the bill because House democrats have convinced OPM that they do not see this as a precedent that will be extended to other Federal employee benefits. Also, the retroactivity feature has been highly limited. The OPM representative stated that only an estimated 400 people could qualify for retroactive coverage and that each would have to go through a number of hoops before getting it.

3. The Senate's companion bill, S 2821, is still in Steven's Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee. The staff continues to negotiate with OPM and the Senate bill will very likely end up looking very much like the House bill. It is expected that the Congress will enact the legislation this year and that the President will sign it.


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